

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
July 22, 2013

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer, Shapiro
Excused: Ryan

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Freudmann seconded to approve the minutes of June 24, 2013 meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger and Mr. Schaefer who abstained.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, referenced an email she sent to Council members regarding the Regional School District 19 Service Agreement and urged the Council not to approve the agreement. (Statement attached)

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, spoke in support of Ms. Wassmundt's statement and urged the Council to develop regulations for biohazard level facilities.

Arthur Smith, Mulberry Road, questioned how a member of the public would be able to track how often staff, or a member of the Council, consults with the Resident State Trooper on noncriminal matters.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report the Town Manager noted the following:

- The Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection public hearing regarding the Hillside Road extension project has been rescheduled to September 10, 2013.
- The Town Manager will confer with the Director of Public Works regarding the use of overtime for routine maintenance work. Mr. Hart believes the work was a result of being understaffed for a period of time prior to the most recent hires.
- The Town Manager will verify the number of jobs realized as a result of the Storrs Center project.
- The Town Manager often meets with the Resident State Trooper to discuss matters of public safety and Council members have the same rights as other citizens when contacting the police.
- The Mayor and Town Manager will review the agenda items for August and make a recommendation to the Council regarding the advisability of cancelling the second meeting in August.
- The Town Manager will request an opinion from Bond Counsel regarding whether or not the project for which the encumbered open space funds have been appropriated would need to be completed in order to maintain the open space bonding.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Paterson listed the business items on the agenda for the benefit of those residents listening at home.

The Mayor commented on a Senior Center sponsored trip she took to the State Police Museum, noting it was very interesting. The Mayor thanked Sgt. Cournoyer and Coordinator of Mansfield Senior Center Cynthia Dainton for coordinating the outing.

July 22, 2013

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Keane seconded to move Item 5, Senior Center Evaluation Presentation, as the next item of business.
The motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and the Regional School District 19 for Parking Lot Services.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Moran seconded to table discussion on this agenda item pending a further review of liability issues.
Motion to table passed unanimously.

2. Amendment to Motor Vehicle Traffic and Parking Regulations

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective July 22, 2013, to approve the proposed amendments to the Motor Vehicle Traffic and Parking Regulations, as recommended by staff in the draft dated July 18, 2013.

Mr. Freudmann moved to amend the motion by changing the wording of §A198-7 to read, "...Parking Garage, when there is an accumulation of snow and ice and plowing is required." Sub-paragraphs 1 & 2, which follow, would be eliminated. Additionally §198-9B would read, "... Collector of Revenue within one month of the date on which the parking citation ticket was issued. If payment is not paid within one month, it becomes due with interest of 1 ½% per month from the date of issuance. The minimum interest charge is two dollars. Any fine..."

Seconded by Mr. Paulhus the motion failed.

The motion as originally offered passed with all in favor except Mr. Freudmann and Mr. Paulhus who voted nay.

3. Storrs Center Update

The Town Manager reported on the construction progress at Storrs Center and recognized the efforts of staff in securing a \$500,000 Main Street Investment grant. Mr. Hart also reported that a group of residents is working with the architect on plans for the town green which will be presented to the Council in August or September. A force account, as requested by Councilor Freudmann, will be provided at the next regular meeting. The Town Manager will review pedestrian access on the east side of Storrs Road near Bolton Road. A number of options for coverage of the intermodal center are under review. These options will be presented to the Town Council for consideration.

4. Community Water/Wastewater Issues

UConn will be presenting the water supply environmental impact evaluation (EIE) to the Board of Trustees on August 7, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. in the Rome Ballroom. The Town Manager recommended the Council call a special meeting on August 8, 2013 to discuss the record of decision and discuss possible governance alternatives with counsel. By consensus Council members agreed to meet at 7:30 p.m. on August 8, 2013 if the necessary attendees are available.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

5. Senior Center Evaluation Presentation

Cynthia Dainton, Coordinator for the Mansfield Senior Center, presented the results of an evaluation of the Senior Center and the programs offered. Ms. Dainton reviewed the process, the information garnered, and the conclusions reached based on the survey data.

Council members discussed the distribution of the Seniors Sparks which is a publication of the Mansfield Senior Center Association and is distributed to their members on a

subscription basis. Ms. Dainton noted the Senior Center will send out a flyer to all residents over the age of 55.

6. Appointment of Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission Alternate to the Windham Regional Council of Governments Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded, effective July 22, 2013, to appoint Roswell Hall as an alternate to the Windham Regional Council of Governments Regional Planning Commission.
Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments offered.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Kochenburger, Chair of the Committee on Committees, offered the following recommendations for Council consideration:

Michael Kurland to the Emergency Management Committee for a term ending 10/31/2014,

James Raynor to the Board of Ethics for a term ending 6/30/2016,

Lynn Stoddard to the Sustainability Committee for a term ending 4/27/2017,

Peter Millman to the Transportation Advisory Committee for a term ending 11/30/2015.

The motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mr. Freudmann, reporting for the Finance Committee, stated the Committee has been discussing cost allocations within the Finance Department.

Personnel Committee Chair Toni Moran outlined the process for the Town Manager's evaluation and asked members to respond in a timely manner. The Committee is also reviewing possible reassignments for adult services. Ms. Moran distributed copies of the Ethics Board opinion which upheld that the ethics code is applicable to the Board of Education members and employees. Ms. Moran also reported the Ad hoc Committee on Responsible Contractors will be scheduling meetings with administrators of vocational/technical schools and local contractors in the fall.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. E. Paterson/J. Goodwin re: Interstate Reliability Project

8. Planning and Zoning Commission Application Referral

9. Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Notice of Public Hearing - Mr. Schaefer asked if the walkway referred to on page 99 is still going to be built. Ms. Moran asked if traffic signals were still being considered for some of the intersections in the area.

10. Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection re: Repeal of the Stream Channel Encroachment Line Program

11. Connecticut Light & Power re: Development and Management Plan

12. Connecticut Council of Small Towns re: Membership – Members discussed the pros and cons of joining COST.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA

A discussion regarding joining the Connecticut Council of Small Towns will be added to a future agenda.

A discussion regarding the restructuring of the Connecticut Councils of Government will be added to a future agenda once the information is available for review.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

July 22, 2013

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

July 22, 2013